



with offices at 16200 S. LaGrange Road, Orland Park, Illinois, where it maintains a telephone facsimile machine that automatically prints on paper using toner/ ink.

4. Defendant Michele Graham does business as Wholeful Pet, selling products for use by pet owners. (Exhibit B) She may be found at 100 Wahoo Way, Charlottesville, VA 22903.

5. Defendants John Does 1-10 are other natural or artificial persons that were involved in the sending of the facsimile advertisements described below. Plaintiff does not know who they are.

### **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

6. This Court has jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. §§1331 and 1367. *Mims v. Arrow Financial Services, LLC*, 565 U.S. 368 (2012); *Brill v. Countrywide Home Loans, Inc.*, 427 F.3d 446 (7<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2005).

7. Personal jurisdiction exists under 735 ILCS 5/2-209, in that Defendants:

- a. Have committed tortious acts in Illinois by causing the transmission of unlawful communications into the state.
- b. Have transacted business in Illinois.

8. Venue in this District is proper for the same reason.

### **FACTS**

9. On or about July 28, 2021 Animal Medical Center of Orland Park, Inc., received the unsolicited fax advertisement attached as Exhibit A on its facsimile machine.

10. Exhibit A was sent by Defendant Michele Graham d/b/a Wholeful Pet. It advertises products which are available for sale.

11. Discovery may reveal the transmission of additional faxes as well.

12. Defendant Michele Graham d/b/a Wholeful Pet is responsible for sending or causing the sending of the fax.

13. Plaintiff had no prior relationship with Defendants and had not authorized the sending of fax advertisements to Plaintiff.

14. On information and belief, the fax attached hereto was sent as part of a mass broadcasting of faxes.

15. On information and belief, Defendant Michele Graham d/b/a Wholeful Pet directed the sending of the fax advertisements and have transmitted similar unsolicited fax advertisements to at least 40 other persons in Illinois.

16. There is no reasonable means for Plaintiff or other recipients of Defendants' unsolicited advertising faxes to avoid receiving illegal faxes. Fax machines must be left on and ready to receive the urgent communications authorized by their owners.

### **COUNT I – TCPA**

17. Plaintiff incorporates ¶¶ 1-16.

18. The TCPA makes unlawful the “use of any telephone facsimile machine, computer or other device to send an unsolicited advertisement to a telephone facsimile machine ...” 47 U.S.C. §227(b)(1)(C).

19. The TCPA, 47 U.S.C. §227(b)(3), provides:

#### **Private right of action.**

**A person or entity may, if otherwise permitted by the laws or rules of court of a State, bring in an appropriate court of that State—**

**(A) an action based on a violation of this subsection or the regulations prescribed under this subsection to enjoin such violation,**

**(B) an action to recover for actual monetary loss from such a violation, or to receive \$500 in damages for each such violation, whichever is greater, or**

**(C) both such actions.**

**If the Court finds that the defendant willfully or knowingly violated this subsection or the regulations prescribed under this subsection, the court may, in its discretion, increase the amount of the award to an amount equal to not more than 3 times the amount available under the subparagraph (B) of this paragraph.**

20. Plaintiff and each class member suffered damages as a result of receipt of the

unsolicited faxes, in the form of paper and ink or toner consumed as a result. Furthermore, Plaintiff's statutory right of privacy was invaded.

21. Plaintiff and each class member is entitled to statutory damages.
22. Defendants violated the TCPA even if its actions were only negligent.
23. Defendants should be enjoined from committing similar violations in the future.

#### **CLASS ALLEGATIONS**

24. Pursuant to Fed.R.Civ.P. 23(a) and (b)(3), Plaintiff brings this claim on behalf of a class. The class consists of (a) all persons (b) who, on or after a date four years prior to the filing of this action (28 U.S.C. §1658), (c) were sent faxes by or on behalf of Michele Graham d/b/a Wholeful Pet promoting goods or services, (d) with respect to which Defendants did not have evidence of consent or an established business relationship prior to sending the fax.

25. The class is so numerous that joinder of all members is impractical. Plaintiff alleges on information and belief that there are more than 40 members of the class.

26. There are questions of law and fact common to the class that predominate over any questions affecting only individual class members. The predominant common questions include:

- a. Whether Defendants engaged in a pattern of sending unsolicited fax advertisements;
- b. The manner in which Defendants compiled or obtained its list of fax numbers; and
- c. Whether Defendants thereby violated the TCPA.

27. Plaintiff will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the class. Plaintiff has retained counsel experienced in handling class actions and claims involving unlawful business practices. Neither Plaintiff nor Plaintiff's counsel have any interests which might cause them not to vigorously pursue this action.

28. Plaintiff's claims are typical of the claims of the class members. All are based on

the same factual and legal theories.

29. A class action is the superior method for the fair and efficient adjudication of this controversy. The interest of class members in individually controlling the prosecution of separate claims against Defendants is small because it is not economically feasible to bring individual actions.

30. Numerous courts have certified class actions under the TCPA. *Holtzman v. Turza*, 08cv2014, 2009 WL 3334909, 2009 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 95620 (N.D.Ill. Oct. 14, 2009), *aff'd in part, rev'd in part, vacated in part*, 728 F.3d 682 (7th Cir. 2013); *Ballard RN Center, Inc. v. Kohl's Pharmacy and Homecare, Inc.* 2015 IL 118644, 48 N.E.3d 1060; *American Copper & Brass, Inc. v. Lake City Indus. Products, Inc.*, 757 F.3d 540, 544 (6th Cir. 2014); *In re Sandusky Wellness Center, LLC*, 570 Fed.Appx. 437, 437 (6th Cir. 2014); *Sandusky Wellness Center, LLC v. Medtox Scientific, Inc.*, 821 F.3d 992, 998 (8th Cir. 2016); *Sadowski v. Med1 Online, LLC*, 07cv2973, 2008 WL 2224892, 2008 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 41766 (N.D.Ill. May 27, 2008); *CE Design Ltd. v. Cy's Crabhouse North, Inc.*, 259 F.R.D. 135 (N.D.Ill. 2009); *Targin Sign Systems, Inc. v. Preferred Chiropractic Center, Ltd.*, 679 F.Supp.2d 894 (N.D.Ill. 2010); *Garrett v. Ragle Dental Laboratory, Inc.*, 10cv1315, 2010 WL 4074379, 2010 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 108339 (N.D.Ill. Oct. 12, 2010); *Hinman v. Mc&M Rental Center, Inc.*, 545 F.Supp.2d 802 (N.D.Ill. 2008); *G.M. Sign, Inc. v. Group C Communications, Inc.*, 08cv4521, 2010 WL 744262, 2010 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 17843 (N.D.Ill. Feb. 25, 2010); *Kavu, Inc. v. Omnipak Corp.*, 246 F.R.D. 642 (W.D.Wash. 2007); *Display South, Inc. v. Express Computer Supply, Inc.*, 961 So.2d 451, 455 (La.App. 2007); *Display South, Inc. v. Graphics House Sports Promotions, Inc.*, 992 So.2d 510 (La.App. 2008); *Lampkin v. GGH, Inc.*, 146 P.3d 847 (Ok.App. 2006); *ESI Ergonomic Solutions, LLC v. United Artists Theatre Circuit, Inc.*, 203 Ariz. 94, 50 P.3d 844 (2002); *Core Funding Group, LLC v. Young*, 792 N.E.2d 547 (Ind.App. 2003); *Critchfield Physical Therapy v. Taranto Group, Inc.*, 293 Kan. 285, 263 P.3d 767 (2011); *Karen S. Little, L.L.C. v. Drury Inns, Inc.*, 306 S.W.3d 577 (Mo.App. 2010); *Lindsay Transmission, LLC v. Office Depot, Inc.*, 4:12cv221, 2013 WL 275568, 2013 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 9554 (E.D.Mo. Feb. 24, 2013).

31. Management of this class action is likely to present significantly fewer difficulties than those presented in many class actions, e.g. for securities fraud.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff requests that the Court enter judgment in favor of Plaintiff and the class and against Defendants for:

- a. Actual damages;
- b. Statutory damages;
- c. An injunction against the further transmission of unsolicited fax advertising;
- d. Costs of suit;
- e. Such other or further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

**COUNT II – ILLINOIS CONSUMER FRAUD ACT**

32. Plaintiff incorporates ¶¶ 1-16.

33. Defendants engaged in unfair acts and practices, in violation of ICFA § 2, 815 ILCS 505/2, by sending unsolicited fax advertising to Plaintiff and others.

34. Unsolicited fax advertising is contrary to the TCPA and also Illinois law. 720 ILCS 5/26-3(b) makes it a petty offense to transmit unsolicited fax advertisements to Illinois residents.

35. Defendants engaged in an unfair practice and an unfair method of competition by engaging in conduct that is contrary to public policy, unscrupulous, and caused injury to recipients of their advertising.

36. Plaintiff and each class member suffered damages as a result of receipt of the unsolicited faxes, in the form of paper and ink or toner consumed as a result.

37. Defendants engaged in such conduct in the course of trade and commerce.

38. Defendants' conduct caused recipients of their advertising to bear the cost thereof. This gave Defendant an unfair competitive advantage over businesses that advertise lawfully, such as by direct mail. For example, an advertising campaign targeting one million recipients would cost \$500,000 if sent by U.S. mail but only \$20,000 if done by fax broadcasting. The reason is that instead of spending \$480,000 on printing and mailing his ad, the fax broadcaster misappropriates the recipients' paper and ink. "Receiving a junk fax is like getting junk mail with the postage due".

Remarks of Cong. Edward Markey, 135 Cong Rec E 2549, Tuesday, July 18, 1989, 101st Cong. 1st Sess.

39. Defendants' shifting of advertising costs to Plaintiff and the class members in this manner makes such practice unfair. In addition, Defendants' conduct was contrary to public policy, as established by the TCPA and Illinois statutory and common law.

40. Defendants should be enjoined from committing similar violations in the future.

### **CLASS ALLEGATIONS**

41. Pursuant to Fed.R.Civ.P. 23(a) and (b)(3), Plaintiff brings this claim on behalf of a class. The class consists of (a) all persons with Illinois fax numbers (b) who, on or after a date 3 years prior to the filing of this action (815 ILCS 505/10a), (c) were sent faxes by or on behalf of Michele Graham d/b/a Wholeful Pet promoting goods or services, (d) with respect to which Defendants did not have evidence of consent or an established business relationship prior to sending the fax.

42. The class is so numerous that joinder of all members is impractical. Plaintiff alleges on information and belief that there are more than 40 members of the class.

43. There are questions of law and fact common to the class that predominate over any questions affecting only individual class members. The predominant common questions include:

- a. Whether Defendants engaged in a pattern of sending unsolicited fax advertisements; and
- b. Whether Defendants thereby engaged in unfair acts and practices, in violation of the ICFA.

44. Plaintiff will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the class. Plaintiff has retained counsel experienced in handling class actions and claims involving unlawful business practices. Neither Plaintiff nor Plaintiff's counsel have any interests which might cause them not to vigorously pursue this action.

45. Plaintiff's claims are typical of the claims of the class members. All are based on the same factual and legal theories.

46. A class action is the superior method for the fair and efficient adjudication of this controversy. The interest of class members in individually controlling the prosecution of separate claims against Defendants is small because it is not economically feasible to bring individual actions.

47. Management of this class action is likely to present significantly fewer difficulties than those presented in many class actions, e.g. for securities fraud.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff requests that the Court enter judgment in favor of Plaintiff and the class and against Defendants for:

- a. Appropriate damages;
- b. An injunction against the further transmission of unsolicited fax advertising;
- c. Attorney's fees, litigation expenses and costs of suit;
- d. Such other or further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

### **COUNT III – CONVERSION**

48. Plaintiff incorporates ¶¶ 1-16.

49. By sending Plaintiff and the class members unsolicited faxes, Defendants converted to their own use ink or toner and paper belonging to Plaintiff and the class members.

50. Immediately prior to the sending of the unsolicited faxes, Plaintiff and the class members owned and had an unqualified and immediate right to the possession of the paper and ink or toner used to print the faxes.

51. By sending the unsolicited faxes, Defendants appropriated to their own use the paper and ink or toner used to print the faxes and used them in such manner as to make them unusable. Such appropriation was wrongful and without authorization.

52. Defendants knew or should have known that such appropriation of the paper and ink or toner was wrongful and without authorization.

53. Plaintiff and the class members were deprived of the paper and ink or toner,



which could no longer be used for any other purpose. Plaintiff and each class member thereby suffered damages as a result of receipt of the unsolicited faxes.

54. Defendants should be enjoined from committing similar violations in the future.

### **CLASS ALLEGATIONS**

55. Pursuant to Fed.R.Civ.P. 23(a) and (b)(3), Plaintiff brings this claim on behalf of a class. The class consists of (a) all persons with Illinois fax numbers (b) who, on or after a date 5 years prior to the filing of this action, (c) were sent faxes by or on behalf of Michele Graham d/b/a Wholeful Pet promoting goods or services, (d) with respect to which Defendants did not have evidence of consent or an established business relationship prior to sending the fax.

56. The class is so numerous that joinder of all members is impractical. Plaintiff alleges on information and belief that there are more than 40 members of the class.

57. There are questions of law and fact common to the class that predominate over any questions affecting only individual class members. The predominant common questions include:

- a. Whether Defendants engaged in a pattern of sending unsolicited fax advertisements; and
- b. Whether Defendants thereby converted the property of Plaintiff.

58. Plaintiff will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the class. Plaintiff has retained counsel experienced in handling class actions and claims involving unlawful business practices. Neither Plaintiff nor Plaintiff's counsel have any interests which might cause them not to vigorously pursue this action.

59. Plaintiff's claims are typical of the claims of the class members. All are based on the same factual and legal theories.

60. A class action is the superior method for the fair and efficient adjudication of this controversy. The interest of class members in individually controlling the prosecution of separate claims against Defendants is small because it is not economically feasible to bring individual actions.

61. Management of this class action is likely to present significantly fewer difficulties that those presented in many class actions, e.g. for securities fraud.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff requests that the Court enter judgment in favor of Plaintiff and the class and against Defendants for:

- a. Appropriate damages;
- b. An injunction against the further transmission of unsolicited fax advertising;
- c. Costs of suit;
- d. Such other or further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

#### **COUNT IV – TRESPASS TO CHATTELS**

62. Plaintiff incorporates ¶¶ 1-16.

63. Plaintiff and the class members were entitled to possession of the equipment they used to receive faxes.

64. Defendants' sending Plaintiff and the class members unsolicited faxes interfered with their use of the receiving equipment and constitutes a trespass to such equipment. *Chair King v. Houston Cellular*, 95cv1066, 1995 WL 1693093 at \*2 (S.D. Tex. Nov. 7, 1995) (denying a motion to dismiss with respect to Plaintiff's trespass to chattels claim for unsolicited faxes), vacated on jurisdictional grounds 131 F.3d 507 (5th Cir. 1997).

65. Defendants acted either intentionally or negligently in engaging in such conduct.

66. Plaintiff and each class member suffered damages as a result of receipt of the unsolicited faxes.

67. Defendants should be enjoined from continuing trespasses.

#### **CLASS ALLEGATIONS**

68. Pursuant to Fed.R.Civ.P. 23(a) and (b)(3), Plaintiff brings this claim on behalf of a class. The class consists of (a) all persons with Illinois fax numbers (b) who, on or after a date 5 years prior to the filing of this action, (c) were sent faxes by or on behalf of Michele Graham d/b/a

Wholeful Pet promoting goods or services, (d) with respect to which Defendants did not have evidence of consent or an established business relationship prior to sending the fax.

69. The class is so numerous that joinder of all members is impractical. Plaintiff alleges on information and belief that there are more than 40 members of the class.

70. There are questions of law and fact common to the class that predominate over any questions affecting only individual class members. The predominant common questions include:

- a. Whether Defendants engaged in a pattern of sending unsolicited fax advertisements; and
- b. Whether Defendants thereby committed a trespass to chattels.

71. Plaintiff will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the class. Plaintiff has retained counsel experienced in handling class actions and claims involving unlawful business practices. Neither Plaintiff nor Plaintiff's counsel have any interests which might cause them not to vigorously pursue this action.

72. Plaintiff's claims are typical of the claims of the class members. All are based on the same factual and legal theories.

73. A class action is the superior method for the fair and efficient adjudication of this controversy. The interest of class members in individually controlling the prosecution of separate claims against Defendants is small because it is not economically feasible to bring individual actions.

74. Management of this class action is likely to present significantly fewer difficulties than those presented in many class actions, e.g. for securities fraud.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff requests that the Court enter judgment in favor of Plaintiff and the class and against Defendants for:

- a. Appropriate damages;
- b. An injunction against the further transmission of unsolicited fax advertising;
- c. Costs of suit;

d. Such other or further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

/s/ Daniel A. Edelman  
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/s/ Frank F. Owen  
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Attorneys for Plaintiff Animal Medical Center  
of Orland Park Inc. and all others similarly situated

**JURY DEMAND**

Plaintiff demands trial by jury.

/s/ Daniel A. Edelman  
Daniel A. Edelman

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of Orland Park Inc. and all others similarly situated

**NOTICE OF LIEN AND ASSIGNMENT**

Please be advised that we claim a lien upon any recovery herein for 1/3 or such amount as a court awards. All rights relating to attorney's fees have been assigned to counsel.

/s/ Daniel A. Edelman  
Daniel A. Edelman

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Dulijaza (Julie) Clark  
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Attorneys for Plaintiff Animal Medical Center  
of Orland Park Inc. and all others similarly situated

**DOCUMENT PRESERVATION DEMAND**

Plaintiff hereby demands that Defendants take affirmative steps to preserve all recordings, data, documents, and all other tangible things that relate to Plaintiff, the events described herein, any third party associated with any telephone call, campaign, account, sale or file associated with Plaintiff, and any account or number or symbol relating to them. These materials are likely very relevant to the litigation of this claim. If Defendants are aware of any third party that has possession, custody, or control of any such materials, Plaintiff demands that Defendants request that such third party also take steps to preserve the materials. This demand shall not narrow the scope of any independent document preservation duties of the Defendants.

/s/ Daniel A. Edelman  
Daniel A. Edelman

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Dulijaza (Julie) Clark  
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of Orland Park Inc. and all others similarly situated

**EXHIBIT A**





# Wh<sup>🐾</sup>oleful Pet

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## SURROGATE MAMAS



When you can't bottle feed, the surrogate mammas can.

### FOR KITTENS



Surro-Kitty® Mini

### FOR PUPPIES



Surro-Pooch™ w/ heartbeat



Surro-Kitty® Sound (It Purrs)

### What It Is:

The Surro-nursers are a line of feeders that allow young kittens and puppies to nurse in a more natural way. It alleviates some of the pressures that come with hand-feeding a hungry litter around the clock.

### How to Order:

Visit [Wholefulpet.com](http://Wholefulpet.com) to view the full line of surrogate nursers and to place an order. Surro-Kitty® Mini (\$159), Surro-Kitty® Sound (\$195), Surro-Pooch™ (\$185).

### Contact

Contact us at [CustomerService@Wholefulpet.com](mailto:CustomerService@Wholefulpet.com) or call us at 1-800-554-6830.

**EXHIBIT B**

## Internet Property

This address was listed in domain name registration records. Below you'll find the owner name, contact and technical support information, which was obtained through analyzing historical WHOIS (pronounced as the phrase 'who is') records.

**Please log in to view the full web address.**

**R\*\*\*\*\*.com**

**Date of Registration**

Apr 24, 2015

**Administrator, Technical Contact**

Michele Graham

Organization: **Wholeful Pet**

Phone: [\(143\) 482-5381](tel:(143)482-5381)

Mail: m\*\*\*\*\*@w\*\*\*\*\*.com

**Registrant Contact**

Michele Graham

Organization: **Wholeful Pet**

100 Wahoo Way, Charlottesville, Virginia 22903, UNITED STATES

Phone: [\(143\) 482-5381](tel:(143)482-5381)

Mail: m\*\*\*\*\*@w\*\*\*\*\*.com

## ZIP Code 22903 Rent Values in Feb 2021

Fair market rent values for properties in the [22903](#) according to the HUD (U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development) data

Year	0 Bedrooms	1 Bedroom	2 Bedrooms	3 Bedrooms	4 Bedrooms
2021	\$980	\$1,110	\$1,310	\$1,630	\$2,030
2020	\$870	\$1,100	\$1,280	\$1,600	\$1,970
2019	\$860	\$1,160	\$1,340	\$1,680	\$2,040
2018	\$780	\$1,060	\$1,220	\$1,530	\$1,830
2017	\$710	\$970	\$1,120	\$1,400	\$1,680
2016	\$700	\$980	\$1,130	\$1,400	\$1,690
2015	\$640	\$840	\$1,000	\$1,270	\$1,440
2014	\$620	\$820	\$970	\$1,230	\$1,400
2013	\$680	\$890	\$1,060	\$1,350	\$1,530
2012	\$700	\$850	\$1,000	\$1,300	\$1,430